

wherein:

R is a carboxylic acid;

R<sup>1</sup> is an optionally substituted pyridyl group;

Alk<sup>1</sup> is an optionally substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> aliphatic chain or C<sub>1-6</sub> heteroaliphatic chain containing one, two, three or four heteroatoms or heteroatom-containing groups;

$L^1$  is  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-C(O)-$ ,  $-C(O)O-$ ,  $-C(S)-$ ,  $-S(O)-$ ,  $-S(O)_2-$ ,  $-N(R^5)-$ ,  $-CON(R^5)-$ ,  $-OC(O)N(R^5)-$ ,  $-CSN(R^5)-$ ,  $-N(R^5)CO-$ ,  $-N(R^5)C(O)O-$ ,  $-N(R^5)CS-$ ,  $-S(O)N(R^5)-$ ,  $-S(O)_2N(R^5)-$ ,  $-N(R^5)S(O)-$ ,  $-N(R^5)S(O)_2-$ ,  $-N(R^5)CON(R^5)-$ ,  $-N(R^5)CSN(R^5)-$ ,  $-N(R^5)SON(R^5)-$ , or  $-N(R^5)SO_2N(R^5)-$ ;

$R^5$  is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched alkyl group;

$r$  and  $s$ , which may be the same or different, is each zero or an integer  $1$ ;

Alk<sup>2</sup> is a straight or branched alkylene chain;

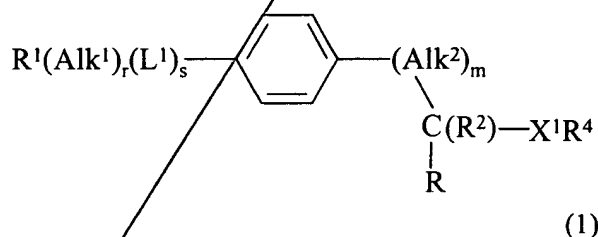
m is zero or an integer 1;

$R^2$  is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group;

X<sup>1</sup> is a group selected from -N(R<sup>3</sup>)CO-, (where R<sup>3</sup> is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched alkyl group); -N(R<sup>3</sup>)SO<sub>2</sub>-, -N(R<sup>3</sup>)C(O)O- or -N(R<sup>3</sup>)CON(R<sup>3a</sup>)- (where R<sup>3a</sup> is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched alkyl group);

$R^4$  is an optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$  aliphatic,  $C_{3-10}$  cycloaliphatic or  $C_{7-10}$  polycycloaliphatic group;  
and the salts, solvates, hydrates and N-oxides thereof.

14. (Amended Twice) A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of a disease or disorder involving inflammation in which the extravasation of leukocytes plays a role in a mammal, which comprises administering to a mammal suffering from such a disease or disorder a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (1):



wherein:

$R$  is a carboxylic acid ( $CO_2H$ );

$R^1$  is a hydrogen atom or a hydroxyl, straight or branched alkoxy or optionally substituted pyridyl group;

$Alk^1$  is an optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$  aliphatic chain or  $C_{1-6}$  heteroaliphatic chain containing one, two, three or four heteroatoms or heteroatom-containing groups;

$L^1$  is  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-C(O)-$ ,  $-C(O)O-$ ,  $-C(S)-$ ,  $-S(O)-$ ,  $-S(O)_2-$ ,  $-N(R^5)-$ ,  $-CON(R^5)-$ ,  $-OC(O)N(R^5)-$ ,  $-CSN(R^5)-$ ,  $-N(R^5)CO-$ ,  $-N(R^5)C(O)O-$ ,  $-N(R^5)CS-$ ,  $-S(O)N(R^5)-$ ,